

At any rate he died. When he died, she managed to have some of her people get hold of Bernice and kill her and also kill her child. So we read here that "she shall not retain the power of the arm, neither shall he stand nor his arm, but she shall be given up and they that brought her and they that begot her." That means her father died at about this time.

So (v.7) "out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate." What would be a branch of her roots? Her roots would be her father, king Ptolemy. And the branch of her roots would be her brother, Ptolemy III. So Ptolemy III came with an army and attacked the king of the north and prevailed.

Verse 8, "and also carried captives into Egypt, their gods, their princes, their precious ~~xxx~~vessels of silver and gold and continued more years than the king of the north. So it looks as if the Seleucus was loosing out in this which had been intended to make friendship between them, yet it produced envy.

You never could have told what was going to happen, but looking back you can see how exactly it fits.

Verse 9 "So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom and shall return into his own land,"-- most interpreters consider that to mean that he shall come into the kingdom of the king of the south. That is if you take it as the Hebrew could be translated either way. You take it as it stands it could simply be a recapitulation of vv. 7 and 8.

Question: Is Ptolemy III a brother of Bernice?

A brother of Bernice, yes. It says Bernice was the daughter of Ptolemy II. He was her brother. So v.9 is generally taken as being an attempt of the Seleucids to attack Egypt again, which failed. There was one which failed, but it could be simply a summary of the previous verse. So either translation would fit with facts.

Verse 10: "His son shall be stirred up and shall assemble a multitude of ~~xxx~~ great forces, and one shall certainly come and overflow and ~~xxx~~ pass through and return and be stirred up even to his fortress." It continues with the attempt of King Ptolemy to get vengeance, and the fact that eventually there came a king of the North who was very strong.

You have on your list Seleucus III here who reigned for only four years. One of the sons of Laodice, he reigned for only four years, when there was a rebellion in the army and he was killed and his brother Antiochus III became king.

Antiochus III is called Great because he would have been one of the greatest figures in ancient history-- not ~~xxx~~ one of the top ones, but of very second rank-- if it were not for an unfortunate thing that happened ~~xx~~ at the end of his reign.

Antiochus III who is called the Great is described here in the course of from vv.13 right on up to verse 19. We have a long description here of the reign of one of the most powerful conquerors in ancient history, but largely forgotten because of the failure at the end of his reign. It describes here how the king of the north comes in v.13 with a great army and with much riches